GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:403
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2007
SHORTAGE OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of ATCs required in the coming years in the civil aviation industry;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortage of ATCs in the country;

(e) whether the Government proposes to open new institutions for imparting education in Air Traffic Control in various parts of the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a),(b),(c),(d),(e)&(f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in reply to parts (a),(b),(c),(d),(e) &(f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Q.No.403 for reply on 3rd May, 2007 regarding shortage of Air Traffic Controllers.

(a),(b) &(c) : Due to unprecedented growth in civil aviation sector, the number of flights/aircraft movement have significantly increased. This has resulted in need for opening some additional units at existing airports like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Nagpur. Further, additional ATCs will be required to provide services to new international airports under construction at Bangalore and Hyderabad. It is estimated that about 620 additional ATCs are required, in various grades to meet the demand at existing and upcoming airports.

(d): During the last two and a half years, as many as 371 Junior Executives (ATC) have been inducted in Airports Authority of India (AAI). Action for filling up other posts is a continuing exercise. AAI is also utilising the services of retired ATCOs, wherever possible.

(e) &(f): Yes, Sir. One additional training unit is being established at the existing Hyderabad airport. Air Traffic Controllers will be trained for the procedures in Area Control Services at Hyderabad Training Centre.